

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 7456

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, MX

SUBJ: ZUNO KIDNAPPING

1. THERE CONTINUES TO BE A SUBSTANTIAL GAP BETWEEN GOM COMMENTS AND PRESS REPORTAGE ON THE STATUS OF KIDNAPPING, AS WELL AS DIVERGENCE AMONG STATEMENTS MADE BY ASSORTED FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICIALS. FOR EXAMPLE, LISTS OF THOSE DETAINED BY POLICE FOR QUESTIONING HAVE BEEN WIDELY PUBLISHED, BUT FEDERAL AGENT SALVADOR DEL TORO ROSALES YESTERDAY DENIED THAT THERE WERE ANY ARRESTEES IN HIS JURISDICTION. (EVEN GOVERNMENT-ORIENTED EL NACIONAL POINTED OUT THAT REPORTERS COULD SEE SEVERAL DETAINEES IN THE OFFICE JUST ACROSS FROM DEL TORO'S). WHETHER THERE IS EFFECTIVE CENTRALIZED CONTROL OF INVESTIGATIONS, IT IS CLEAR THAT THERE IS NO SUCH CONTROL ON THE DISSEMINATION OF RELATED INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC.

2. EXCELSIOR ON AUGUST 31 PUBLISHED A COMMUNIQUE PURPORTEDLY FROM THE KIDNAPPERS, DELIVERED TO THE PAPER OVERNIGHT. THE COMMUNIQUE IS SIGNED BY THE ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FRONT OF THE PEOPLE (FRAP) AND DATED AUGUST 28. IT DEMANDS "IMMOBILIZATION OF ALL REPRESSIVE FORCES WHILE THE DETAINED IS IN OUR POWER", PUBLICATION OF A POLITICAL COMMUNIQUE WHICH THE FRAP WILL ADDRESS TO THE MEXICAN PEOPLE, THE RELEASE OF TEN POLITICAL
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PRISONERS (IDENTITY NOT SPECIFIED) WHO ARE ALSO TO BE INTER-

VIEWS ON NATIONAL TELEVISION, PAYMENT OF \$20 MILLION PESOS IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO BE PROVIDED. THE COMMUNIQUE FURTHER PROVIDES DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING PROVISION OF A "BIMOTOR" AIRCRAFT TO TRANSPORT THOSE RELEASED TO CUBA. SCHEDULE OUTLINED IN COMMUNIQUE INDICATES, HOWEVER, THAT ALL FOREGOING CONDITIONS WERE TO BE MET AND PRISONERS ENROUTE TO CUBA ON AUGUST 30.

3. SEVERAL THOUSAND "PEASANTS, STUDENTS" AND OTHERS RALLIED IN GUADALAJARA YESTERDAY TO PROTEST KIDNAPPING AND EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR VICTIM. CROWD WAS ADDRESSED BY VICTIM'S SON, JOSE GUADALUPE ZUNO ARCE, AMONG OTHERS. J.G. ZUNO ASSERTED THAT THERE "ARE TRAITORS TO THE REVOLUTION" IN THE GOM, PUBLIC OFFICES, AND "EVERYWHERE" AND URGED THAT ALL BE ALERT: "...INTERNATIONAL IMPERIALISM IS ATTACKING THOSE PEOPLES WHICH WANT LIBERTY".

4. A COLUMNIST IN LEFTIST RADICAL EL DIA ON AUGUST 31 RETURNED TO THE ATTEMPT TO LINK THE USG, AMBASSADOR JOVA, THE CIA TO THE KIDNAPPING. NOTING THE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS (REPORTED EARLIER), THE WRITER SUGGESTS THAT THE AMBASSADOR MIGHT NOT KNOW WHAT CIA WAS UP TO AND ARGUES THAT THE KIDNAPPING LOOKS LIKE CIA WORK.

5. COMMENT: AUTHENTICITY OF THE PURPORTED COMMUNIQUE (PARA 2 ABOVE) CANNOT BE DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY. IF AUTHENTIC, THE DEMAND FOR TRANSPORTATION TO CUBA WILL LIKELY EMBARRASS THE GOC AND THE GOM. THE COMMENTS OF THE ZUNO BROTHERS, WHICH SEEM TO FLY IN THE FACE OF SUCH FACTS AS ARE AVAILABLE, MAY SIMPLY REFLECT THE REFLEX ACTIONS OF A NOTORIOUSLY LEFTIST AND ERRATIC FAMILY UNDER STRESS.
JOVA

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